

EXHIBIT A

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October 22, 2004

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VIA FACSIMILE AND U.S. MAIL

Natalie Morgan
Wilson Sonsini Goodrich & Rosati
3611 Valley Centre Drive, Suite 525
San Diego, CA 92130

Re: *In re Columbia University Patent Litigation, MDL 1592*

Dear Natalie:

I write in response to your letter dated October 14, 2004 to Wayne Barsky regarding Dr. Siminovitch's willingness to voluntarily respond to Amgen's document subpoena. I have conveyed your request to Dr. Siminovitch and can now report that he is willing to voluntarily respond to your document subpoena. We will make every attempt to do so within at least a week prior to his deposition.

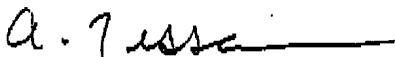
On another note, we believe that it would be more convenient for all of the parties to hold Dr. Siminovitch's deposition in New York instead of Toronto. Dr. Siminovitch is willing to come to New York for his deposition to take place at GD&C's New York office on November 18, 2004 (with a start to be determined at Dr. Siminovitch's convenience) if all of the plaintiffs will agree that they will not serve him with any type of subpoena or other process during his visit to the United States. Please let us know as soon as possible whether you (and the other plaintiffs) are amenable to this arrangement.

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Natalie Morgan, Esq.
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As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,


Amanda Tessar

cc: Counsel of record, as listed below, via facsimile:

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